

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FORM B - BUILDING

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BLVD
BOSTON, MA 02125

Town Provincetown
Place (neighborhood or village)
Address 251-253 COMMERCIAL ST
Building ID 742
Parcel No. (PID) 11-3-029-0
Mapbase # 11-3-029
Building Area 2743.038
Historic Name
Present Use Commercial
Original Use Commercial
Date of Construction 1890
Source Tax assessment
Style/Form
Architect/Builder
Exterior Material Wood shingle
Foundation brick, stone
Wall/Trim wood
Roof cross gable
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Photograph

(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll	Negative(s)



Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate

Major Alterations (with dates)

Storefront alterations, 20th cent.; stylistic alterations c. 1880

Condition Good
Moved no yes **Date**
Acreage 0.076
Setting

Recorded by Vanessa Zeoli
Organization Kise Straw & Kolodner
Date (month/year) September 2003
Form Status new update

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings in the community.

Address in the field is 253 Commercial Street; 251-253 Commercial St. is a 2-story, 5-bay, commercial building; cross-gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles; exterior is clad in wood shingles with wood trim; building sits on a brick and stone foundation; fenestration includes 2/2 wood DHS windows in 2nd story, single-pane wood fixed windows in 1st-story storefront with wood panels below, 3/3 wood DHS, 1/1 DHS replacements; primary entrance is accessed by recessed modern metal and glass doors; band of low-relief sawtooth molding above 1st-floor storefront; enclosed porch has stone foundation; rear gable ell..

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

see continuation sheet

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

As per Tom Boland (1994): "The former address of this location is 244 Commercial Street. First appearing on the 1858 atlas, 251-253 Commercial Street is noted as owned by A. Young and is the location for Provincetown's first telegraph office. There was also a wharf between this building and 255-257 Commercial which, unfortunately, is not named but does appear on the 1836 map as Young's Wharf. In 1880, the site was still in the Young family, at this time owned by L. Young. The name of the wharf, however, had changed to C. Cook. By 1889, it is evident that a bakery and jewelry shop were also housed under the roof of this large building. On the upper floor the Nautilus Club, a women's club which still exists, held its meetings. The bakery continued to be located here and in 1901 was under the ownership of Joshua A.T. Small who succeeded N.H. Drie as baker in 1878. Small purchased the property from Jacob Gross in 1882. The owner for 1907 is J.F. Small. This structure, in conjunction with 255-257 Commercial serve as unaltered examples of early 'head of the wharf' buildings in Provincetown. Although the wharf is now gone, they do well to create an idea of the town's maritime history."

Currently "Shalom's Gift Shop" (2003).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Barnstable County Atlas., 1880.
Barnstable County Atlas., 1907.
Cape Cod Directory, 1901.
The Extremity of Cape Cod. Map, 1836.
H.F. Wallings Co. Map of Provincetown Village. Atlas, 1858.
Resident Directory. W.F. Richardson & Co., 1886.
Resident Directory. W.H. Hopkins, 1889.
Ruckstuhl, Irma. Old Provincetown in Early Photographs. Toronto, 1987.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*